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ABSTRACT

Data related to the 1982 budget for federal research and development funding are highlighted in this brief publication. Although budget authority for the total federal research and development programs in 1982 represents a seven percent increase, this figure also represents a constant-dollar decrease of almost two percent. The 1982 budget accentuates a pattern already evident in the 1981 budget in that growth in national defense has far outpaced growth in other functional areas. (SK)

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SCIENCE RESOURCES STUDIES HIGHLIGHTS

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20550 DECEMBER 15, 1981 NSF 81-321

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TOTAL FEDERAL R&D FUNDING ESTIMATED TO INCREASE 7 PERCENT IN 1982 AFTER SEPTEMBER REVISIONS

The data below are based on an updating of *Special Analysis K* in the 1982 budget, issued by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in April 1981, and on *Budget Amendments, Fiscal Year 1982*, also issued by OMB and dated September 30, 1981. The second document was the source of preliminary estimates for revised R&D request levels in 1982. Most R&D programs were broadly identifiable, but in the case of a few smaller R&D support agencies, a reduction of 12 percent from March levels was used in making estimates, the same reduction as was applied to the nondefense portion of the overall budget.

Research and Development

- Budget authority for total Federal R&D programs in 1982, as revised in September,[1] is now an estimated $37.9 billion, or 7 percent higher than the $35.5 billion estimated for 1981 (table 1). This represents a constant-dollar decline of almost 2 percent.[2]
- Whereas the nondefense portion of the total discretionary budget in the September revisions was cut 12 percent from March levels, the nondefense portion of the R&D total was cut an estimated 8 percent.
- The Department of Defense (DOD) and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) now show 1982 increases over 1981 R&D funding levels of 21 percent and 5 percent, respectively (table 2). All other agencies show decreases in 1982 as compared with 1981; of the five leading R&D support agencies, the Department of Energy (DOE) reflects the largest decrease—16 percent.
- In terms of functions, the 1982 budget accentuates a pattern already evident in the 1981 budget wherein growth in national defense far outpaced growth in other functional areas. R&D budget authority for national defense in 1982 is now expected to increase by 21 percent over 1981. The increase for space research and technology is estimated to be 5 percent in 1982 with growth almost entirely dependent on funding plans for the space shuttle, which was exempt from September cuts. Increases for national defense and the space shuttle are the sole factors in the overall 1982 R&D gain. For the civilian R&D total (overall minus defense) the budget shows a decrease in 1982 of 8 percent from 1981 in current dollars.

Basic Research

- An overall decrease for basic research budget authority in 1982 is expected under the proposed September amendments, with total funding set at $4.9 billion (table 3). The estimated decline from 1981, however, is in a range of only 1 percent to 2 percent.
- DOD is the sole leading basic research support agency to show an increase in 1982 in basic research funding—[illegible] percent.

[1] *Budget Amendment, Fiscal Year 1982*, House Document 97-94, (Washington, D.C.: Supt. of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, September 30, 1981).

[2] An estimate of 8.6 percent for inflation in fiscal year 1982 is used by OMB, based on the GNP implicit price deflator.

Prepared in th[illegible] of Science Resources Studies

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Table 1. Federal R&D budget authority by budget function[a] (prelim.)
[Dollars in millions]

Function	March 1981		September 1981		
	1981 estimate[b]	1982 estimate	Proposed amendments	Revised 1982 estimate	Percent change 1981-82
Total	$35,523	$40,789	-$2,881	$37,907	6.7%
National defense	18,444	23,261	-1,003	22,259	20.7
Space research and technology	4,929	5,539	-342	5,197	5.4
Health	3,825	4,043	-485	3,558	-7.0
Energy	3,515	3,016	-493	2,523	-28.2
General science	1,304	1,441	-178	1,263	-3.1
Natural resources and environment	1,038	976	-120	856	-17.6
Transportation	877	883	-53	831	-5.3
Agriculture	647	725	-87	638	-1.5
Education, training, employment and social services	339	299	-36	263	-22.3
All other	607	605	-85	520	-14.4

[a] Listed in descending order of 1982 R&D budget authority. Data under the September estimates for 1982 were compiled by NSF on the basis of House Document 97-94, *Budget Amendment, Fiscal Year 1982, Communication from the President of the United States Transmitting Budget Amendments for Fiscal Year 1982*, Washington: 1981.

[b] Estimates for 1981 do not include actions taken by the executive branch or the Congress after March 10, 1981.

Source: National Science Foundation

Table 2. Federal R&D budget authority by agency (prelim.)
[Dollars in millions]

Agency	March 1981		September 1981		
	1981 estimate[a]	1982 estimate	Proposed amendments[b]	Revised 1982 estimate	Percent change 1981-82
Total	$35,523	$40,789	-$2,881	$37,907	6.7%
Department of Defense	17,081	21,746	-1,002	20,744	21.4
National Aeronautics and Space Administration	5,408	6,017	-342	5,675	4.9
Department of Energy	4,939	4,669	-522	4,147	-16.0
Department of Health and Human Services	3,920	4,156	-499	3,657	-6.7
National Science Foundation	920	1,002	-121	881	-4.2
Department of Agriculture	769	859	-103	756	-1.7
All other agencies	2,487	2,340	-293	2,047	-17.7

[a]Estimates for 1981 do not include actions taken by the executive branch or the Congress after March 10, 1981.
[b]See House Document 97-94, *Budget Amendment, Fiscal Year 1982*, September 30, 1981.

Source: National Science Foundation

Table 3. Federal budget authority for basic research by agency (prelim.)
[Dollars in millions]

Agency	March 1981		September 1981		
	1981 estimate[a]	1982 estimate	Proposed amendments[b]	Revised 1982 estimate	Percent change 1981-82
Total	$5,013	$5,542	-$603	$4,939	-1.5%
Department of Health and Human Services	1,862	2,003	-241	1,762	-5.4
National Institutes of Health	1,746	1,884	-226	1,658	-5.0
Other	117	119	-14	105	-10.3
National Science Foundation	858	950	-114	836	-2.6
Department of Defense	617	724	-14	710	15.1
Department of Energy	594	680	-85	595	.2
National Aeronautics and Space Administration	541	592	-76	516	-4.6
Department of Agriculture	319	361	-45	316	-.9
All other agencies	223	232	-28	204	-8.5

[a]Estimates for 1981 do not include actions taken by the executive branch or the Congress after March 10, 1981.
[b]See House Document 97-94, *Budget Amendment, Fiscal Year 1982*, September 30, 1981.

Source: National Science Foundation